

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

YAMAGATA et al.

Atty. Ref.: 925-286

Serial No. To be Assigned

Group:

Filed: April 1, 2004

Examiner:

For: METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING NONVOLATILE SEMICONDUCTOR
MEMORY WITH NARROW VARIATION IN THRESHOLD VOLTAGES OF
MEMORY CELLS

* * * * *

April 1, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1.	PTO-1449 Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(b) [within 3 months of filing or prior to 1st Office Action]	<i>N/C</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> 2.	Statement Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(c) [before Final Office Action and Allowance]	<i>N/C</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> 3.	Fee Payment Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(c) [before Final Office Action and Allowance]	<i>\$180.00</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> 4.	Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(d) [before Issue Fee payment]	<i>\$180.00</i>

The following are submitted in the above-identified application in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98:

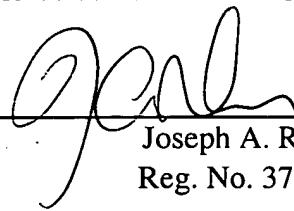
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5.	A list of documents on Form PTO-1449. Actual copies of the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449 are not included herewith in accordance with MPEP §609, these references being previously submitted in any and all of the parent applications. The parent application includes U.S. application Serial No. 09/993,890.
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This paper is submitted in accordance with:

- 6. 37 CFR 1.97(b): [within 3 months of filing or prior to 1st Office Action]
- 7. 37 CFR 1.97(c): [before Final Office Action and Allowance, whichever is earlier]; and
 - a) The required Statement made in item 9 below; or
 - b) The \$180.00 fee specified in 37 CFR §1.17(p) for submission of this Information Disclosure Statement is authorized in item 10 below.
- 8. 37 CFR §1.97(d): [before issue fee payment]; and
 - a) The fee (\$180.00) required by 37 CFR §1.17(p) is authorized in item 10 below; and
 - b) The required Statement is stated in item 9 below.
- 9. Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e)
 - a) The undersigned attorney of record hereby certifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (each item contained in this IDS was the first citation of that item by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application which occurred no more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS); or
 - b) No item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this Statement, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
- 10. Please charge all applicable fees associated with the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement and any other fees applicable to this application to Deposit Account No. 14-1140. An original and one (1) copy of this document are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,
NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:



Joseph A. Rhoa
Reg. No. 37,515

YAMAGATA et al.
Serial No. To be Assigned

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 925-286	SERIAL NO. To be Assigned			
		APPLICANT YAMAGATA et al.				
(Use several sheets if necessary)		FILING DATE April 1, 2004	GROUP			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS SUBCLASS FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE		
	5,482,881	1/1996	Chen et al.			
	6,143,607	11/2000	Chi			
	5,445,984	8/1995	Hong et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
					TRANSLATION	
DOCUMENT	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	YES	NO
9-17890 A	1/1997	JP				
OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent pages, etc.)						
	U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/993,890 filed November 27, 2001					
*Examiner		Date Considered				
Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to application.						

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Form PTO-FB-A820 (Also PTO-1449)